



The Wildlife Management Institute 68th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference

March 26-29, 2003
Winston Salem, North Carolina



BIOSKETCH FOR THE 2003 NATIONAL 4-H WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES ADULT VOLUNTEER WINNERS

MINNESOTA



Judy Hible, of Princeton, Minnesota, is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). She has been a 4-H Volunteer Leader for 15 years.

Judy has been interested in nature and the outdoors all of her life. As a young child she spent many days on hunting trips and fishing

trips with her father. And, as a mother, she has carried this tradition on with her own children, wanting them to have the same fun learning about nature as she had. After all, she says, Minnesota is the Land of 10,000 Lakes, with a variety of geographic areas; prairie lands; grasslands; deciduous forests; and coniferous forests. One of the reasons Judy is involved with 4-H fish and wildlife activities is that she likes the idea of having children learn what Minnesota has to offer as far as nature and the outdoors.

In 1991 Judy began training for an Aquatic Education program called Minaqua, offered by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This program trains instructors in the natural history of the aquatic biosphere. After completing this course, Judy has been holding workshops and clinics for this program ever since. In past years, other 4-H training workshops she has held have been Project Learning Tree, WOW, Aquatic Wet, Aquatic Wild, and teaching about reptiles and amphibians. All of these various

workshops have been used by Judy to teach wildlife, fisheries, and other outdoor activities to 4-H children.

For many years Judy has worked on the Community Festival, organizing fishing clinics on the Rim River. At these clinics she helps instruct participants on boating safety, how to tie boat knots, and in fishing skills and techniques. Judy often holds fishing and wildlife clinics in her home, since right next to her house there is a gravel pit with numerous fish and wildlife species.

For the past several years Judy has been working with and instructing 4-H kids to build bluebird trails in the community. Throughout the year the kids monitor the boxes, cleaning and repairing them. She and her 4-H kids also build bat houses.

Often Extension educators from other counties ask Judy to hold workshops for 4-H kids to teach them nature-oriented projects such as leaf pressing, bird feeder and bird house building, and fishing jigs. Judy finds working with and instructing 4-H children a rewarding challenge.

Currently Judy's 4-H Club is working on several different projects for the community, including Flowers Along Roads — a flower planting project that will attract birds and insects — and a walking path around a pond where people can observe wildlife. Judy was recognized as the Outstanding Volunteer of the county, and was the Blue Ribbon Award Winner for the Minnesota 4-H Adult Volunteers.